

REMARKS

As originally filed, the present application erroneously included two claims identified by reference numeral 10. Applicant has herein cancelled both of such claims and all claims that were dependent thereon, and rewritten such claims as new claims 22-26 to correct this typographical error. The limitations of new claims 22-26 are identical to the original claims that have been cancelled and thus the amendments to the claims should be made for purposes of patentability.

Regarding the grouping of the claims in view of the restriction requirement previously imposed, Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's revised group of claims 14-16 in Group I, rather than in Group II. As for the grouping of new claims 22-26, Applicant submits that claims 22-24 and 26 are drawn to apparatus that do not require a ladder, and therefore claims 22-24 and 26 should be classified as being in Group II. Additionally, because claim 25 requires both a ladder and a support platform, Applicant submits that claim 25 should be classified as being in Group I. In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the proper grouping of the claims is as follows:

Group I, claims 1-9, 14-16, and 25;

Group II, claims 22-24 and 26;

Group III, claims 17-21.


Applicant maintains its previous provisional election of Group II for prosecution in the event the Restriction Requirement is maintained.

CONCLUSION

The Examiner is encourage to contact the undersigned in the event there are any other issues that require resolution.

Respectfully submitted,
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